

I had a unique opportunity to visit one of the most fascinating cities in South Korea. Seoul is a beautiful city with centuries of history. This was a fascinating and informative trip, but most of the time I gave it to visiting the sights and decided to share my impressions in this essay.

### Gyeongbokgung

The royal palace of impressive size, built in 1394 during the reign of the Joseon Dynasty. After the Japanese invasion in the 16th century, parts of the complex were destroyed. Reconstruction took place only in the middle of the XIX century. In total, Gyeongbokgung has more than 300 buildings and about 6 thousand rooms. During the Japanese occupation of the Korean Peninsula, the residence of the Governor General was located here.

## Chiang kungun

Translated from the Korean language, the name "Chiang Gong" means "rampant fun." This palace was erected at the beginning of the XII century and was intended for recreation and entertainment of the royal court. The complex is surrounded by a picturesque park, where arbors, pagodas and pavilions are scattered. Nowadays, performances are held on the territory of Chiang Kung Gong and historical costume parades are held, where people in colorful costumes depict scenes from court life.

## Myeongdong Shopping District

Myeongdong is located on a small area of 1 km<sup>2</sup>. About 3 thousand people compactly live here. This area is one of the most visited places in Seoul due to the large number of shops, shops and Korean restaurants. The quarter also has a neo-Gothic Catholic cathedral and theater.

# **Gwangjiang Market**

The largest market of fabrics and clothes in the South Korean capital, where you can buy national costumes and magnificent wedding dresses made of magnificent silk and worth a fortune. The average cost of one such dress exceeds the amount of \$ 1,000. Souvenirs and groceries are also sold in Gwangjiang. Tourists visit the market for interest and color;

locals regularly come here for shopping.

### **Bucheon Village**

A traditional Korean settlement located in the central part of the capital. Despite the fact that Bukchon is more like an open-air museum, it is a full-fledged residential quarter. In one-story old houses with a tiled roof, people live. Their lifestyle is very different from the habits of a typical resident of a big city. Buildings made of clay, stone and wood look quite exotic against the background of modern skyscrapers of the capital

## Republic of Korea War Memorial

An impressive museum complex housed in the former army headquarters in the historic center of Seoul. The exposition consists of weapons, military equipment, military vehicles, as well as objects related to the history of the state. The memorial was opened in 1994. An impressive part of the collection is devoted to aspects of the conflict between North and South Korea.

#### National Folk Museum of Korea

The museum is located in one of the buildings of Gyeongbokgung Palace. His collection consists of exhibits telling about the life and way of life of Koreans before the Joseon Dynasty came to power. Some of the exposition is located in the open. The museum was created with the assistance of the American government in 1945. The exposition is divided into three large sections, which are devoted to various aspects of the life of the Korean people.

## **Ewha Womans University**

The educational institution is considered one of the most prestigious in Seoul. Students here receive an excellent and sought-after education, with which they open the doors to the most attractive positions. The university was founded at the end of the 19th century by the American missionary M. Scranton. More than half of the female politicians in the Republic of Korea are Ihwa graduates.

# Bridge "Rainbow Fountain"

The automobile bridge, on the edges of which there is a fountain in the form of a waterfall, overthrowing its streams into the Hangan River. It got its sonorous name due to the beautiful illumination of water flows, consisting of seven colors of the rainbow. From the park located on the shore offers an unforgettable view of the bridge. Many tourists

and locals come here to admire the colorful jets of the fountain.

#### Seoul TV Tower

The tower is 271 meters high, built in the 1970s. It became the first tower that provided the city with stable radio and television signals. The construction stands on top of Namsan hill, so the height of the tower above sea level is about 480 meters. Inside the television tower there is a museum, an observation deck with a panoramic view of Seoul, a souvenir shop and a cafe.

## Aquarium COEX

The attraction is located in the shopping and entertainment center of the same name, which is located within the prestigious Gangnam District. In addition to marine life, here you can see exotic birds and animals. In total, the aquarium contains about 650 species (40 thousand individuals). For the convenience of visitors, the territory is divided into thematic zones.

#### Amusement park "Lotte World"

According to the Guinness Book of Records, Lotte World is considered the largest indoor amusement park in the world. In addition to a variety of attractions, there are cinemas, a hotel, a shopping center, an ice rink and a theater of magicians. The place is popular with young Korean couples who come here all day. The park is divided into two zones: one is located under the roof, the other in the open.

#### Namsan Park

The park is located on the picturesque slopes of the same Despite the fact that the green zone is located almost in the center of the city, several hundred species of animals and plants live on its territory. The architectural dominant of the park is the Seoul TV Tower, to which the cable car leads. There is also a museum, a public library and a botanical garden.

## BAU House Dog Café

Like any major metropolis, Seoul is a very noisy and hectic city. Therefore, there are very popular places where you can properly relax and unwind. Entrance to the cafe is free, but you must order some kind of drink - juice, tea, coffee or a fruit and berry smoothie. Cost in the range of 5-6 dollars. And you can play yourself with shaggy pets as much as you like! There, for this, all conditions are created - comfortable sofas, tables, and I especially

want to note - no unpleasant smell, and the dogs are all clean and well-groomed. There are only two halls in the cafe. In one, which is larger, representatives of large breeds are collected - greyhounds, malamutes, setters, retrievers and labradors. And in the smaller hall, different small things are worn - spitz, dachshunds, dwarf poodles, spaniels and different puppies. All names, breeds and age of dogs can be found in a special plate - the dog menu, which lies in the cafe on every table. I liked spending more time with the big ones - they are somehow more compact.

In conclusion, I want to say the main thing: feel free to travel!